

Claims

1. A seed tape (1) including successively arranged germinating units (2a, 2b, 2c) made of plane material and being coherent or secured to a carrier strip (3) of at least one layer of biodegradable material, and where each germinating unit (2a, 2b, 2c) is  
5 intended to be vertically bedded out in the earth (12) or in a growth substrate and in addition to one or more seeds (6) includes a mixture of a carrier (7), at least one additive (9) and optionally a filler and adjuvants (8), and where the additive or the additives (9) include water-absorbing materials, such as superabsorbing polymers, c h a r a c t e r i s e d in that each germinating unit (2a, 2b, 2c) is provided with at  
10 least one narrow zone (5) of water-repellent material across said unit, adjacent or at least up to the upper edge of said unit, where the water-repellent material penetrates the plane material of the germinating unit throughout the entire thickness thereof.
2. A seed tape as claimed in claim 1, c h a r a c t e r i s e d in that the water-repellent material of the narrow zone (5) is silicone or silicone oil.
- 15 3. A seed tape as claimed in claim 1 or 2, c h a r a c t e r i s e d in that the narrow zone (5, 5') of water-repellent material is of a height (h) of at least 1 mm.
4. A seed tape as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3, c h a r a c t e r i s e d in that the narrow zone (5, 5') of water-repellent material is of a height of 3.5 to 10 mm, preferably 4 to 8 mm, especially 5 mm.
- 20 5. A seed tape as claimed in one or more of the claims 1 to 4, c h a r a c t e r i s e d in that the narrow zone of water-repellent material is of a height (h) of 5 to 10% of the height (H) of the germinating unit.
6. A seed tape as claimed in one or more of the claims 1 to 5, c h a r a c t e r i s e d in that the plane material of the germinating units (2a, 2b, 2c etc.) is paper, preferably

of a weight of 30 to 60 g/m<sup>2</sup>, especially 40 to 50 g/m<sup>2</sup>, and that the carrier strip (1) is made of paper as well.

7. A seed tape as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the water-repellent material of the narrow zone (5, 5') is wax, stearin, paraffin or caoutchouc applied onto the plane material of the germinating unit as a hot melt and subsequently cured.

8. A seed tape as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the water-repellent material of the narrow zone (5, 5') is plastics, such as polylactide (PLA), optionally polylactide (PLA) plus polysaccharides.

9. A seed tape as claimed in one or more of the claims 1 to 8, characterised in that a narrow zone (5') of water-repellent material is provided at or adjacent the lower edge (14) of each germinating unit (2a, 2b, 2c).

10. A seed tape as claimed in one or more of the claims 1 to 9, characterised in that said tape is continuously manufactured as the germinating units (2a, 2b, 2c etc.) are manufactured by means of one or more paper ribbons (16, 17) of a width twice the width of the completed seed tape, a zone (15) of water-repellent material of a double width being applied onto the centre of said paper ribbon, whereafter said paper ribbon or ribbons (16, 17) are slotted (o) through the centre of the water-repellent zone (15).

11. A seed tape as claimed in one or more of the claims 1 to 10, characterised in that a deterrent is added to the water-repellent material of the narrow zone (5, 5'), said deterrent preferably being a substance affecting the sense of smell or taste of animals or birds.

12. A seed tape as claimed in one or more of the claims 1 to 11, characterised in that at the upper edge (4) of the germinating unit, the narrow zone (5) of

water-repellent material is extended slightly downwards (5a, 5b) along the vertical edges (18a, 18b) of said germinating unit (2a, 2b, 2c).